

Appl. No. 10/605,165
Amtd. dated January 02, 2006
Reply to Office action of October 04, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 is currently amended. No new matter is introduced. Consideration of amended
5 claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 8 are cancelled.

Claims 3 and 4 are currently amended to no longer claim dependence on cancelled claim
10 2. Claims 3 and 4 are amended to claim dependence on currently amended claim 1. No
new matter is introduced. The amendments to claims 3 and 4 are simply a matter of claim
number bookkeeping. Consideration of amended claims 3 and 4 is respectfully requested.

New claims 9-14, corresponding to their respective method claims, are entered. Fig. 4
15 shows a microprocessor 20 coupled to an address translator 24 coupled to an external
memory 22. Additionally, Fig. 5 clearly shows a single common area of the external memory
22 and Fig. 6 shows the address translator 24 mapping a plurality of external memory 22
common areas to a single external memory 22 common area, thereby achieving the object of
the present invention. New claims 9-14 are fully supported by the specification. No new
20 matter is introduced. Consideration of the newly entered claims 9-14 is respectfully
requested.

2. Claim Rejections

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Claims 1-4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ahn
(USPN: 6,564,283). Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

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unpatentable over Ahn (USPN: 6,564,283). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahn (USPN: 6,564,283) in view of Applicant's submitted prior art.

5 Response:

Claim 1

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to more clearly describe that a common area of each page of external memory is mapped to a single area of the external memory. Applicants believe that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Ahn (USPN: 6,564,283). Ahn does teach an address translator, however, Ahn's address translation does not teach selectively storing the address as claimed in claim 1, "a common area of each page...being mapped to one single common area of the external memory." Rather, Ahn teaches (col. 1, lines 64-66) that significant external memory resources are wasted because the "...same interrupt routines are stored in the same regions of the memory banks..." In other words, the bank switching address expanding method disclosed by Ahn must be applied to an external memory where each page has one common area as illustrated in Applicant's Fig. 2. Further, Ahn teaches using the combination logic block 27 to combine the 4-bit memory bank address supplied from bank number register 24 with the summed 16-bit address supplied from the adder 26, and then transfers the combined result, i.e., a 20-bit expanded address, to address bus 28 (col. 1, lines 60-64). Therefore, the prior art address translator helps the microprocessor to access the external memory that has the multiple common area configuration illustrated in Applicant's Fig. 2, and is unable to help the microprocessor to access the external memory that has the single common area configuration illustrated in Applicant's Fig. 5. In short, Ahn fails to teach or suggest using the address translator to map a common area of each page pointed to by the microprocessor to one common area of the external memory. For this reason, applicants

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believe that the amended claim 1 has been placed in condition for allowance over Ahn.
Consideration of the amended claim 1 is respectfully requested.

5 Claims 3-7

Claims 3-7 are dependent upon the amended claim 1, and should be allowable if amended
claim 1 is found allowable. Reconsideration of claims 3-7 is respectfully requested.

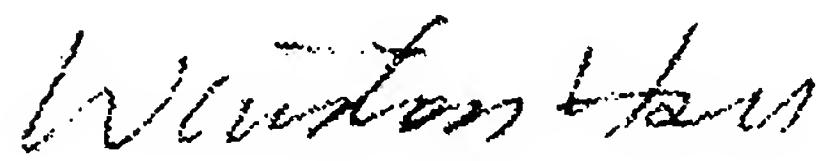
10 New Claims

Claims 9-14 are entered to claim the device for performing the claimed method. In general,
new claims 9-14 offer additional scope coverage of the present invention, specifically; they
provide a device claim set by replacing cancelled claim 8 that corresponds to the method
15 claim set comprising claims 1, 3-7. The new device claim set comprising new claims 9-14
point out and distinctly claim the invention more particularly than cancelled claim 8. If
the method claims are found allowable, the corresponding device claims should be
allowed. Consideration of new claims 9-14 is respectfully requested.

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Appl. No. 10/605,165
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Sincerely yours,



Date: 01/02/2006

5 Winston Hsu, Patent Agent No. 41,526
P.O. BOX 506, Merrifield, VA 22116, U.S.A.
Voice Mail: 302-729-1562
Facsimile: 806-498-6673
e-mail : winstonhsu@naipo.com

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